US Army Corps
of Engineers

Local Government Liaison
Training

Temporary Housing Mission

US Army Corps of Engineers

References

- Section 404 of the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-288)
- Executive Order 12148

US Army Corps of Engineers

Session Objectives

- Define the Temporary Housing Mission
- Identify Mission Capabilities
- Define the LGL Related Capabilities
- Identify Mission Subject Matter Experts

US Army Corps of Engineers

Mission Description

- **The USACE mission for temporary housing is to provide support to FEMA in the development of temporary housing for disaster victims.**
- **Mission could include, but may not be limited to:**
  - design and development of new trailer/mobile home parks;
  - purchasing, hauling and installing travel trailer/mobile homes for new trailer/mobile home parks, private home sites and existing travel trailer/mobile home parks;

Mission Description

(continued)

- Mission elements may also provide **engineering and construction management** to do all work necessary to upgrade and renovate existing trailer parks as required to accept travel trailers/mobile homes in numbers and types determined by FEMA.
- In extreme situations the mission may include the design and construction of life support centers (tents).

Mission Description

(continued)

- FEMA typically tasks USACE to provide temporary housing support **when all other resources for occupancy have been exhausted**.
- If the local governments cannot provide sites, FEMA may also task USACE to **lease sites** on behalf of FEMA.
- This may include **leasing and operation of a staging area** to gather and redirect housing units to sites.

Mission Description

(continued)

- Lands, easements and rights-of-way owned by the local entity requesting FEMA's assistance (usually the State, but could be a county, city, etc.) are provided through a written agreement with FEMA and that entity.
- Included in the agreement is also a "hold harmless" clause.

  (The Government's interest in these two issues is to avoid trespassing and avoid liability as a result of the performance of or the failure to perform an activity while carrying out emergency assistance missions.)

Mission Description

(continued)

Prescripted Mission Assignments

- Pre-scripted mission assignments provide an advance understanding between USACE and FEMA about the housing mission and the funding FEMA will provide to begin immediate work.
- USACE has negotiated with FEMA that on Federally declared disasters, prescripted mission assignments will be used for Temporary Housing.

Mission Description

(continued)

The three categories of prescripted mission assignments under which the temporary housing Planning and Response Teams (PRT) may be activated and executed, for both pre- and post-declaration mission assignments, include:

- **Technical Assistance** (management)
- **Direct Federal Assistance-No Cost Share** (haul and install)
- **Direct Federal Assistance-No Cost Share** (design and construct group sites)

Mission Description

(continued)

Technical Assistance

- Activate and deploy management element of the Housing PRT and/or subject matter expert to provide event specific planning and preparation for the housing mission.
- Coordinate with appropriate Federal and State agencies to develop a plan of action.
- Prepare to implement contracting processes that will permit the award and execution of contracts for temporary housing support.

Mission Description

(continued)

Direct Federal Assistance-No Cost Share

USACE will undertake one or more of the following measures as directed by FEMA:

- **haul, install, and recover** mobile homes, travel trailers or other readily fabricated dwellings;
- perform environmental assessments;
- perform staging area operations, (logistics and/or real estate support for Rights of Entry and leasing authorization may be necessary), and site restoration

Mission Description

(continued)

Direct Federal Assistance-No Cost Share

- Provide **design, site development, and construction**, including installation of utilities, at a mobile home group site, as directed by FEMA. (Logistics and/or real estate support for Rights of Entry and leasing authorization may be necessary.)
- All haul & install and site development work must comply with all applicable historic preservation and environmental laws and regulations. Required permits must be

Mission Description

(continued)

NEPA Considerations

- Any site development must include compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the numerous related laws, regulations and Executive Orders.
- The NEPA response team will be engaged to do tackle this assignment, as necessary.

Related LGL Capabilities

- Identification and acquisition of temporary housing sites is ultimately the responsibility of the local Governments, but…
- The LGL may be tasked to work with the local Emergency Management Officials to identify possible sites that could be utilized for temporary housing.
- Local officials should be encouraged to identify pre-designated or potential sites whenever possible (i.e., at conferences, interagency meetings, etc.)

Related LGL Capabilities

As time allows and conditions demand, the LGL may be tasked to conduct field surveys to identify and initially evaluate the potential of placing travel trailers or mobile homes at:

- Existing private and public trailer parks
- Private property with damaged residences
- New group sites

US Army Corps of Engineers

Recommendations for the LGL

The Local Government Liaison should know:

- The state, county and local temporary housing representatives
- Their respective jurisdictions
- The local permitting or building code offices and any restrictions regarding the placement of temporary housing

Mission Description

(continued)

Mission Termination

- In any Temporary Housing PRT deployment, the mission termination will occur when adequate housing is available to the general public as determined by FEMA in coordination with the State.
- When the available supply of housing units in the disaster area meets the demand, FEMA may opt to terminate any or all of the ongoing housing work efforts, in accordance with contract requirements already in place.
- Final mission close-out will be undertaken at the point determined by FEMA.

US Army Corps of Engineers

USACE Temporary Housing Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)

The USACE Cadre of Temporary Power SMEs to contact for assistance and guidance include:

Leo Arbaugh, CELRH (304) 399-5150; Fax (304) 399-5592;
leo.e.arbaugh.jr@usace.army.mil

District/Regional Centers:

US Army Corps
of Engineers